SI. No	Name of the State	Literacy rale (in women) %
22.	Punjab	63.55
23.	Rajasthan	44.34
24.	Sikkim	61.46
25.	Tamil Nadu	64.55
26.	Tripura	65.41
27.	Uttaranchal	60.26
28.	Uttar Pradesh	42.98
29.	West Bengal	60.22
30.	A & N Islands	75.29
31.	Chandigarh	76.65
32.	D&N Haveli	42.99
33.	Daman & Diu	70.37
34.	Lakshadweep	81.56
35..	Pondicherry	74.13
	TOTAL	54.16

National Merit/Rank Certificate for University and College*

2033. SHRI S. NIRAIKULATHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the universities and colleges in the country have been directed to get the National Merit/Rank Certificate within a stipulated time:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the purpose of these certificates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT : (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) to (c) No such direction has been issued by the University grants Commission to universities/ colleges to get National merit/rank certificate within a stipulated timc.Howcvcr, Ihc UGC has issued a circular to all universities staling thai it is mandatory and compulsory for all the universities to get themselves assessed and accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). NAAC grades universities and colleges during the process of assessment and accreditation of the institution. Assessment is a performance evaluation of an institution and/or its units and is accomplished through a process based on self-study and peer review using defined criteria such as auricular aspects, teaching, learning and evaluation, research consultancy and extension, infrastructure and learning resources, student support and progression, organisation and management, health practices. Accreditation refers to the certificate given by NAAC which is valid for a period of five years and facilitates the accredited institutions to work continuously to improve the Quality of education.

Computer as means of Education

† 2034. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to slate:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce computers as onc of the main means of teaching;

(c) whether Government have formulated any perspective scheme to add computer literacy with the present teaching system; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) to (c) The National Curriculum framework for school education prepared by National Council of Educational Research & Training has recommended the integration of Information and Communication technologies into schools, which has a strong pedagogical rationale. Accordingly, the Government has directed Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti to acquire computers for their schools. Besides this, the Government also proposes to extend support to those Stale Governmcnts/'JTs. which have taken the initiative of introducing

† Original notice of Ihc Question was received in Hindi.